

Dear Colleagues,

You are cordially invited to the 2009 meeting of the Direct Thermal-to-Electrical Energy Conversion Panel under the auspices of the Interagency Advanced Power Group (IAPG)/Renewable Energy Working Group. The scope of this panel spans technology development issues and program coordination in the areas of thermoelectrics, thermionics and "low" temperature thermophotovoltaics.

Since this is the first official meeting of the DTEC Panel following approval by the IAPG Steering Group, we are looking for everyone's input regarding these meetings to make them as effective as possible. The goal is to exchange information on programs and program developments related to TE/TPV/TI and to strategize for effective coordination and cooperation to accelerate advances in the field. The effectiveness of this panel and its meetings is a function of everyone's active participation and we hope the location in Arlington will allow maximum multi-agency participation.

Presentations should describe your agency programmatic/activity interests related to TE, TPV, TI, current programs (core, focused programs, SBIR/STTR, Congressional, etc.), plans for future programs. For the purposes of capturing the scope of the group as best possible for the group's benefit and for the meeting CD that will be sent to all attendees, we'd like to have each participant contribute at least one slide describing their interests.

Please feel free to forward this invitation to colleagues in your organization who may be interested.

The meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 1, in Arlington, VA, at the Executive Conference Center located next to the Virginia Square Metro station (Orange line). This is the same location as the IAPG Steering Group Meeting that some of you may be attending the day before. Directions and lodging information are attached.

For those interested, we're planning to meet the evening of March 31 for a group dinner at a nearby restaurant. Let us know in your response e-mail if you'd like to join us for dinner - we will meet in the ONR lobby (875 N. Randolph St.) at 6:00 p.m. and walk to the Rock Bottom Restaurant in the Ballston Common Mall one block away.

Please RSVP by returning the attached registration form by next Wednesday, March 18, to let us know if (1) you'll be attending (in person or by teleconference), (2) if you're able to give a presentation (all attendees are encouraged to do so), and (3) if you'd like to join us for dinner. Please email your registration forms to: barbara.j.coles@nasa.gov and mihal.gross@navy.mil.

Details of the agenda will be forthcoming pending all of your prompt responses. We look forward to welcoming you to the D.C. area in time for the blooming cherry blossoms!

Respectfully,

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